



701 White Avenue
Beloit, Wisconsin 53511
Tel: 608.364.8424
Fax: 608.364.8417
Ted.stevenson@fairbanksmorse.com

April 23, 2004

**Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555**

Subject: Woodward Digital Reference Unit (DRU)

On April 21, 2004, Fairbanks Morse Engine evaluation determined a potential safety hazard exists for Woodward DRU's. The FM P/N is 12998236 and the Woodward P/N is 9903-439.

The defect exhibits erratic ramp up of speed and hence the inability to reach rated RPM and inability to apply load to the engine. The cause has been traced to a random contamination problem of an integrated circuit (IC) in DRU's manufactured by Woodward between November 2000 and January 2002.

The rate of occurrence is less than 10 in the US and approx 20 worldwide. There are approx 38,000 Woodward units worldwide that use this IC. Only one US nuclear utility has experienced this failure and the failure occurred during testing prior to declaration of operability. In all cases, the failure occurs within a very few hours of operation. Therefore, if a DRU has been installed and has been operating for many hours/years, it is not at risk for this failure.

The utilities that FM has supplied DRU's to in the timeframe identified that may be affected include the following:

<u>Utility</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Year Shipped</u>
FP&L	Seabrook	2001
WCNOC	Wolf Creek	2001

The above utilities are also being notified and affected DRU's will have IC's replaced as necessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd M. Collins".

**Todd Collins
Manager, QA**

IE19